

CASE: 1004 === JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

2 August 1993

ON 9 JUL 93, IE1 INVESTIGATED CASE 1004. THE TEAM SURVEYED ALLEGED CRASH AND BURIAL SITES. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE NEW WITNESS WHO CLAIMS HE FOUND A LEG AND A PILOTS'S FLIGHT BAG AT THE CRASH SITE. HE BURIED THE LEG NEARBY. SINCE THEN, A HOUSE HAS BEEN BUILT ON THE SITE. THE WITNESS ALLOWED THE TEAM TO TAKE POSSESSION OF THE BAG WHICH CARRIED THE NAME OF ONE OF THE TWO UNACCOUNTED FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THIS CASE. THE TEAM RECEIVED NO REMAINS OR WRECKAGE DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. (REF 5)

9 August 1993

WHILE PURSUING A LEAD ON A DIFFERENT CASE IN HUNG THAI VILLAGE, HUNG NGUYEN DISTRICT, NGHE AN PROVINCE, A JOINT US/SRV TEAM OBTAINED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE AERIAL EXPLOSION AND CRASH OF AN AIRCRAFT ON THE EVENING OF THE 27TH DAY OF 12TH LUNAR MONTH, 1967. MILITIA GATHERED AND BURIED SCATTERED REMAINS THE NEXT DAY. THE TEAM EXAMINED AND RECORDED DATA FROM THE WRECKAGE ALLEGEDLY RECOVERED FROM THE CRASH SITE, BUT WAS UNABLE TO EXAMINE A DATA PLATE IN THE MR-4 MUSEUM. THE LOCATION, TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS POSSIBLY CORRELATE TO 1004. (REF 6)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 20 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1005-0-01 (ACCNO 5676)
Name: MILLS, JAMES DALE

Status: (A) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Date Status assigned: 15 Mar 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	#
Service	MARINE CORPS	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	O3	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	RUDDY
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No	080124	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	1 Jul 1937	Weight	164 lb / 74.3 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	TEXAS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 49PBT016564
Lat/Long: 155212N / 1081248E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: QUANG NAM-DA NANG
(formerly):
Mission District: DIEN BAN
Mission Date: 29 Jan 1968
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Jul 93, Mar 92
Investigations: Apr 92, Aug 93
Surveys: Apr 92, Aug 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: CRASH SITE
Survivability: (4) Probably in the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: A4E	Serial: 149976
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52
Call Sign: #	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1005

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

11 March 1976

ON 29 JANUARY 1968 CAPT JAMES D. MILLS WAS THE PILOT OF AN A4E AIRCRAFT (#149976), MAKING A STRAFING RUN DURING A COMBAT MISSION. HIS AIRCRAFT CAUGHT FIRE AND CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES BT 016 564 IN SOUTH VIETNAM. AFTER THE AIRBORNE CONTROLLER NOTED THE FIRST PUFFS OF SMOKE FROM CAPT MILLS' AIRCRAFT, THE AIRCRAFT COMMENCED A ROLL AND THE RIGHT WING SPLIT OFF. UPON IMPACT WITH THE GROUND, THE AIRCRAFT BLEWUP. NO PARACHUTE WAS OBSERVED. AN AERIAL SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED, BUT THE REMAINS OF CAPT MILLS COULD NOT BE SEEN. (REF 1 & 2)

23 March 1976

DURING THE EXISTANCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. CAPT MILLS IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, REMAINS NONRECOVERABLE.

=== REFERENCES ===

23 March 1976

REFERENCES: <1> MSG, VMA 211, 29300Z JAN 68. <2> MSG, VMA 211, 010115Z FEB 68. <3> CJTFFA DET ONE 291024Z MAY 92. <4> 240457Z SEP 93 CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

2 April 1992

CASE NARRATIVE PASSED TO THE VIETNAMESE DURING THE 30 MARCH 1992 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

20 August 1993

CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 28 JUL 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

14 September 1993

THE JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ON A

CASE: 1005

MASSIVE BATTLE THAT OCCURRED IN THE BEGINNING OF 1968 BY THE THU BON RIVER. THESE TWO WITNESSES OBSERVED THE SHOOTING DOWN AND CRASH OF ONE U.S. AIRPLANE. THIS AIRPLANE CRASHED IN THE THU BON RIVER (BT 091557). NO PARACHUTE WAS OBSERVED AND NO REMAINS WERE RECOVERED. ONE WITNESS PRESENTED THE JOINT TEAM WITH A PIECE OF AN AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE HE DISCOVERED WHILE FISHING IN THE AREA OF THIS CASE. TWO WITNESSES PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY OF REMAINS ADJACENT TO AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE AND THE SUBSEQUENT BURIAL OF SAID REMAINS. THE JOINT TEAM CONDUCTED AN EXCAVATION OF AN ALLEGED GRAVE SITE AND RECOVERED SEVERAL BONES. (REF 3)

8 October 1993

ON 08 SEP 93, IE3 TRAVELED TO DIEN BAN DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1005. ADDITIONAL WITNESSES COULD NOT BE LOCATED WITH INFORMATION PERTAINING TO CASE 1005. THE TEAM WENT TO THE INCIDENT LOCATION MAINTAINED IN U.S. RECORDS. THE CRASH SITE WAS STILL UNDER APPROXIMATELY 10 TO 15 FEET OF WATER. THE TEAM SEARCHED THE AREA, TO INCLUDE THE RIVER BANK, UP AND DOWN RIVER, AND FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF WRECKAGE, REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR EQUIPMENT, OR APPARENT BURIAL SITES. (REF 4)



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

- CASE 1005-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 29 JANUARY 1968, CAPTAIN JAMES D. MILLS WAS FLYING AN A-4E AIRCRAFT (SERIAL NUMBER 149976) ON A COMBAT MISSION. HIS AIRCRAFT WAS HIT BY GROUND FIRE DURING A STRAFING PASS AND CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES BT016564, APPROXIMATELY 20 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF DA NANG, 4 KILOMETERS WEST-SOUTHWEST OF DIEN BAN AND 300 METERS EAST OF NHI KINH, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE. THE PILOT OF ANOTHER AIRCRAFT IN THE AREA SAW NO PARACHUTE AND HEARD NO ELECTRONIC BEACON SIGNALS. A GROUND SEARCH WAS NOT CONDUCTED DUE TO THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA.

ON 29 APRIL 1992, A JOINT TEAM TRAVELED TO DIEN PHUOC VILLAGE (BT014568) DIEN BAN DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE, AND INTERVIEWED FIVE WITNESSES. TWO WITNESSES REPORTED OBSERVING THE SHOOT DOWN OF ONE U.S. AIRPLANE WHICH CRASHED IN THE THU BON RIVER (BT019557) IN EARLY 1968. THEY SAW NO PARACHUTE. TWO OTHER WITNESSES PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY OF REMAINS ADJACENT TO AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE (BT031652) AND THE SUBSEQUENT BURIAL OF SAID REMAINS. A FIFTH WITNESS PRESENTED THE TEAM WITH A PIECE OF WRECKAGE HE DISCOVERED WHILE FISHING IN THE AREA OF THIS CASE. THE TEAM EXCAVATED AN ALLEGED GRAVE SITE (BT030559) AND RECOVERED BONES WHICH WERE LATER DETERMINED TO BE ANIMAL AND NOT HUMAN. ITEMS RECOVERED FROM THE REPORTED CRASH SITE CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED DUE TO THE LACK OF ANY VISIBLE PART NUMBERS.

Passed to officials of the
Vietnamese government during a
28 Jul 93 technical meeting

CASE 1005-0-01

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: MILLS, JAMES DALE
RANK: CAPTAIN, U.S. MARINE CORPS
DATE OF BIRTH: 1 JULY 1937
RACE: CAUCASIAN
HEIGHT: 1.78 METERS
WEIGHT: 74.3 KILOGRAMS
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BROWN